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C. M. "Buddy" Leger 674 Hatley Road Cordele. Georgia 31015

October 22, 2002

Country of Origin Labeling
Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA
Attn: William T. Sessions, Associate Deputy Administrator
Stop 0249 Rom 2092-S
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20250-0249

Dear Mr. Sessions:

I am, and have been for many years, a producer of pecans from Crisp County, Georgia also I am serving as Chairman of the Georgia Agriculture Commodity Commission for Pecans. I support the Country of Origin Labeling Bill with an exception. My concern is that as written, it does not cover pecans. As a pecan producer, I would encourage the USDA to take appropriate steps to do what is necessary to have pecans included in the Country of Origin Labeling. Pecans are being imported into the USA from other countries and it would be beneficial for consumer to know the origin of the pecans they are buying.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this request as I feel pecans were unfairly eliminated from the Country of Labeling Bill and wished to express my concerns.

Sincerely.

M. Buddy" Leger

Cc: Congressman Saxby Chambliss Under Secretary Bill Hawks